



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/645,015	08/21/2003	Gerald K. Hein		6226

7590 07/09/2004
Jensen & Puntigam, P.S.
Suite 1020
2033 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98121

EXAMINER

HYEON, HAE M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2839

DATE MAILED: 07/09/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/645,015

Applicant(s)

HEIN ET AL.

Examiner

Hae M Hyeon

Art Unit

2839

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 August 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3-8 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 August 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claims 1, 3 and 6-8 are objected to because of the following informalities:
 - Claim 1, line 6, the examiner suggests the applicant to change “the circuit board” to -- the printed circuit board -- in order to have the same terminology consistently throughout the claims.
 - Claim 1, line 10, it seems that “contract” should be -- contact --.
 - Claim 3, line 4, The examiner suggests the applicant to change “the side wall” to -- the side wall portion -- in order to have the same terminology consistently throughout the claims.
 - Claims 6 and 7 recite, “the trough.” Because only claim 3 is introducing the limitation “trough” and claims 6 and 7 are depending on claim 1, there is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in these claims. It seems that claims 6 and 7 should be depended on claim 3 instead of claim 1.
 - Claim 7, line 4, the examiner suggests the applicant to change “instrument” to -- electronic equipment -- in order to have the same terminology consistently throughout the claims.
 - Claim 8, line 5, the examiner suggests the applicant to change “instrument” to -- equipment -- in order to have the same terminology consistently throughout the claims.
 - Claim 8 recites the limitation "the wall" in lines 3-4. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. The examiner suggests the applicant to change “the wall” to -- a wall -- since the electronic instrument has more than one wall.

Art Unit: 2839

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter, which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claim 3-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 3 recites, “a trough portion which fits around a bottom edge of **a side wall portion of the chassis**, so tat when the end portion of the chassis is secured to **the side wall**, the connection element is capture therebetween.”

It is not clear whether “**the side wall**” in line 4 is the same element as “a side wall portion” recited in line 3. If “the side wall” in line 4 is not the “side wall portion” of line 3, than there is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation, “**the side wall**” in this claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mills et al (5,647,748).

Art Unit: 2839

Mills discloses an electrical connection element comprising a connection element 20 having at least one spring contact assembly 36 for removably receiving and holding a printed circuit board 32. The connection element includes a portion a portion directly attached to electronic equipment 10. The printed circuit board 32 is inserted into the spring contact assembly 36 and makes electrical connection between a circuit ground on the printed circuit board 32 and the equipment chassis 10 when the connection element 20 is operatively attached to the equipment chassis 10.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 3-5 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7. Claims 6-8 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US Patent No. 4,632,476 by Schell, US Patent No. 5,513,996 by Annerino et al., US Patent No. 5,747,735 by Chang et al., US Patent No. 5,833,480 by Austin, US Patent No.

Art Unit: 2839

6,077,095 by DelPrete et al., US Patent No. 6,215,674 B1 by Bertolami, US Patent No.

6,746,254 B2 by Hooper and DE 3638230 A1 by Keusch et al.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hae M Hyeon whose AU is 2839 and whose telephone number is 571-272-2093. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. (8:30-5:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn D Feild can be reached on 571-272-2092. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any response to this action may be mailed to:

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

For additional information regarding this new address, which was effective May 1, 2003, see *Correspondence with the United States Patent and Trademark Office*, 68 Fed. Reg. 14332 (March 25, 2003).

Hae M Hyeon

Examiner

Art Unit 2839

hnh

hnh

Hae Moon Hyeon